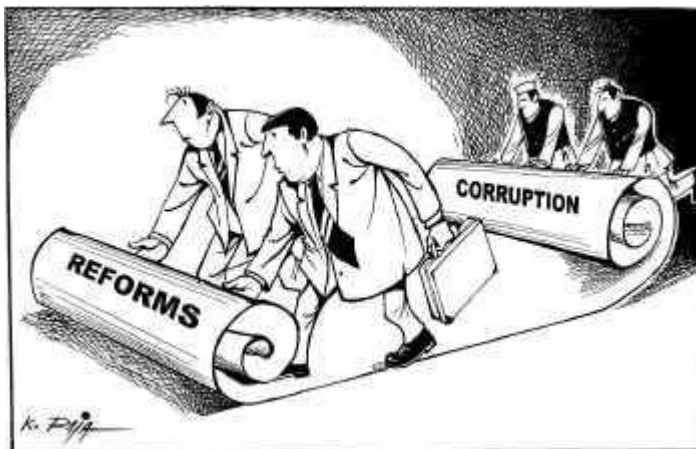


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Contact: Rep. Gordon Hintz
1-608-266-2254



Statement on Bill Exempting Political Crimes from John Doe Investigations

MADISON – Rep. Gordon Hintz (D-Oshkosh) released the following statement regarding today's Assembly action on Assembly Bill 68, which exempts political crimes from John Doe corruption investigations.

"It is difficult to ignore the overwhelming irony of a party that often lectures others on personal responsibility now exempting themselves from the most widely used enforcement action against theft, bribery, and campaign violations. This bill is exactly this kind of self-serving, hypocritical legislation that makes people cynical of politics. The most recent John Doe investigations involving Governor Walker revealed illegal campaign activity that led to six people being convicted as well as illegal campaign coordination. Republicans don't want that to happen in the future."

"Thanks to Governor Walker and the Republican Legislature's complete mismanagement and failure to lead, Wisconsin's public schools and the UW System is seeing historic cuts, our local governments are cash-strapped and full of failing infrastructure, and critical protections for our land, air, and water are being eroded. Rather than be accountable for their actions in the courtroom or the voting booth, Republicans are getting rid of the very institutions that are designed to keep abuse of power in check."

"This is a disturbing time in our state's history and the actions taken today will have repercussions for generations to come."

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